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From: Judy Sullivan
Sent: Mon 6/26/2017 9:58:20 PM
Subject: Application for Use of the Community Room for the Ringwood Mines Superfund Community
Advisory Group, July 13, 2017.
[Application for Use of the Community Room Final.pdf](#)

To the Ringwood Public Library

Dear Ms. Bedder,

Please find attached an application to reserve the Conference Room at the Ringwood Library for July 13 on behalf of the Ringwood Mines Superfund Community Advisory Group.

In 1994, the federal government created Community Advisory Groups (CAG) under the United States government's Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Solid Waste and Remedial Response. Among other places, CAGs draw their power and guidance from the President of the United States' Executive Order 12898. At this link, you will see the extensive nature of the involvement of the federal government with us: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/community-advisory-groups-cags-superfund-sites-quick-reference-page>.

While not an agency of the federal government, we are in essence an information and advisory vehicle working under the auspices of the federal government. The federal government just created our action plan after hiring a local university to do an extensive investigation on what the community needs.

Therefore, while we are happy to pay the \$50.00 out of our own pocket, we do not have our own insurance policy and cannot provide a certificate of insurance unless you will accept the insurance of one of our board members (The Sierra Club - a nationally recognized organization). We have met at the borough, a local church and at a local university and none of these entities asked us for a certificate. It would not be possible for us to obtain insurance as we are not a separate legal entity. We asked Ms. Seppi of the federal government for assistance but she said she did not know how to as this issue has never come up before (perhaps libraries around the country realize what an important role we serve).

You should know that CAGs around the country meet at local libraries. Here are some examples. <https://newtowncreekcag.wordpress.com/>
<https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/SiteProfiles/index.cfm?fuseaction=second.stayup&id=0204492> <http://content/uploads/2015/12/FINAL-CAG-Meeting-4-Summary-.pdf>

There are several high profile members on our CAG. They include Chief Vincent Mann, Chief of the Turtle Clan for the Ramapough Lenape Indian Nation, Jeff Tittel, Executive Director of the North Jersey Sierra Club, Wenke Taule, former mayor of Ringwood, Robin Cannetti, former councilwoman for the Borough of Oakland, Robert Spiegel, Executive Director of Edison Wetlands, etc. We have asked the Borough of Ringwood and Ford Motor Company to participate as well.

Having monthly meetings at the library provides the community with an independent forum to express their views. We expect news coverage for our meetings, as has been the case every meeting thus far. We do not believe the Library Trustees will find our application deficient as the community was given this resource by the federal government. It would frankly be embarrassing to deny the CAG the ability to meet on July 13 for both the library and Ringwood itself, and would only communicate to the federal government a, forgive me, lack of support by public entities serving Ringwood. With the borough already being a Potentially Responsible Party for the contamination at the Ringwood Superfund Site, I encourage you to embrace the CAG to offset the harm the contamination has already caused to the Ringwood Borough and also to the hearts and minds of Ringwood residents by agreeing to have our meetings at your facility.

We have already invited legislators to our meeting on July 13 and told them it is occurring at the library.

I look forward to your acceptance of our application.

I have copied members of the CAG, our contacts at the federal government, our legislators on this application.

With kind regards,

Judith Sullivan, Esq.
President, Sullivan Law and Government Affairs Firm
Chair, Ramapough Conservancy, Inc., A New Jersey Non Profit Corporation